

Serial No. 10/676,892
Response Dated 11/15/05


129500-1

REMARKS

In the Office Action of October 6, 2005, claims 1-60 were subjected to a restriction requirement. As required, the Applicants elect the Group I claims, 1-38 and 50-60. The Applicants further elect the species (a)(1), identified by the Examiner as a "solvent-based coating composition" (claims 1-20). The Applicants stress, however, that claims 1-20 are not necessarily drawn to coating compositions comprising a solvent. No reference is made to the presence or absence of a solvent in claims 1-14 and 20. Claims 15-17 recite coating compositions "further comprising" at least one solvent. Claim 18 recites the "coating composition of claim 1 further comprising water". Claim 19 limits claim 18 to a coating composition which is a "dispersion in water". With respect to claims 1-14 and 20, the coating compositions might or might not contain a solvent. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that by judicious selection of Components A, B and optionally C a coating composition may be produced which is a liquid at room temperature, for example when Component B is a low molecular weight polyethylene glycol derivative and Component A is soluble in Component B. The Applicants point out that all of the Group I claims are closely allied.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants courteously request the Examiner to reconsider her requirement for restriction, and if moved by the arguments of the Applicants or by further scrutiny of the claims in question, to remove it altogether. If further questions arise the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,


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